



**THE KENNEL CLUB  
DOG HEALTH**

**Whippet**

**Pedigree Breed Health Survey**

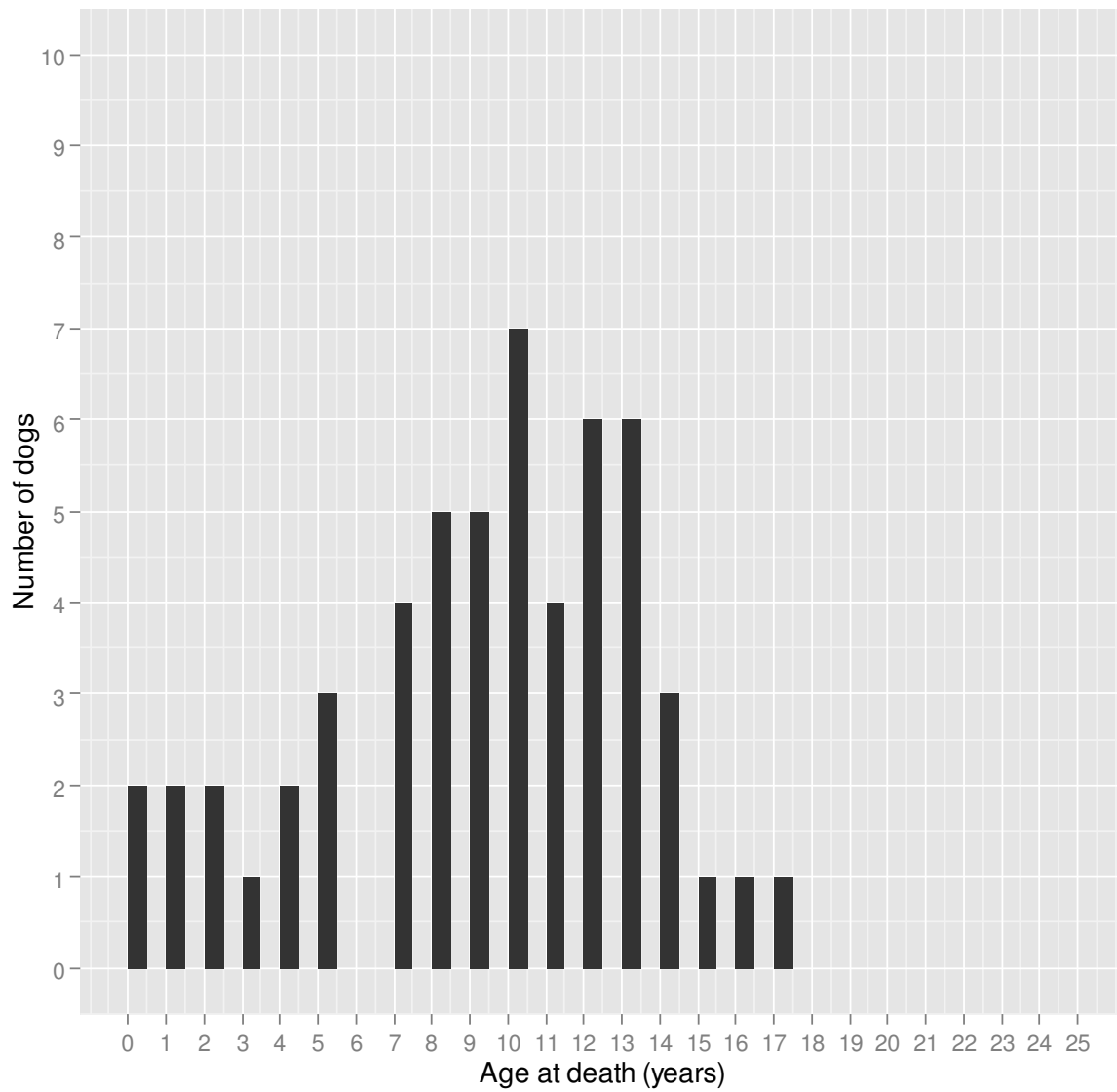
Forms were received representing 707 living dogs & 55 deceased dogs.

**Mortality results**

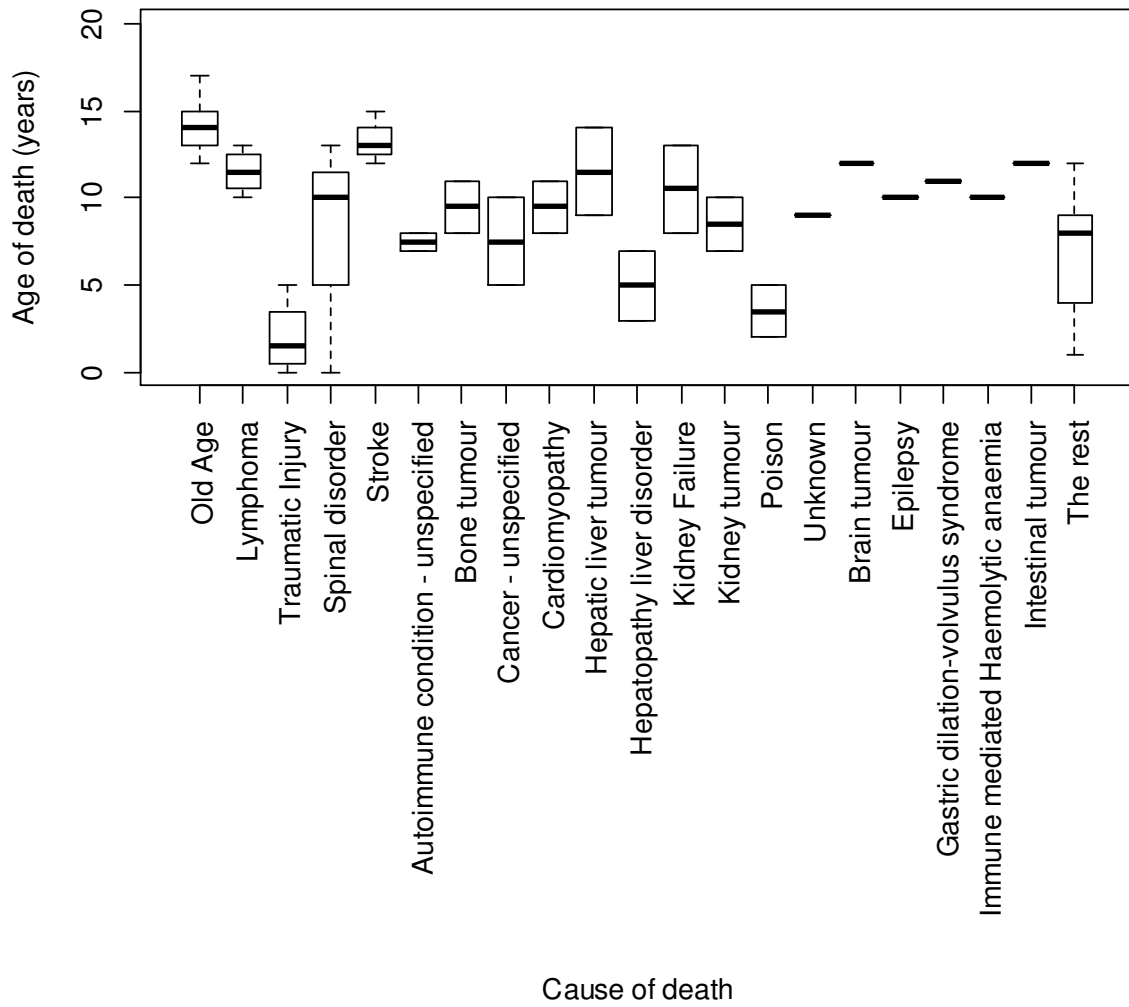
A total of 55 deaths were reported, representing 0.98% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The median longevity for the Whippet was 10 years (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed. Age at death is presented for the most common causes in Figure 2.

**Table 1** The twenty most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 55 deceased dogs).

<b>Cause of death</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>	<b>Proportion (%)</b>
Old Age	7	12.73
Lymphoma	4	7.27
Traumatic Injury	4	7.27
Spinal disorder	3	5.45
Stroke	3	5.45
Autoimmune condition - unspecified	2	3.64
Bone tumour	2	3.64
Cancer - unspecified	2	3.64
Cardiomyopathy	2	3.64
Hepatic liver tumour	2	3.64
Hepatopathy liver disorder	2	3.64
Kidney Failure	2	3.64
Kidney tumour	2	3.64
Poison	2	3.64
Unknown	2	3.64
Brain tumour	1	1.82
Epilepsy	1	1.82
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome GDV Bloat	1	1.82
Immune mediated Haemolytic anaemia	1	1.82
Intestinal tumour	1	1.82



**Figure 1:** Histogram of the longevity for 55 reported deaths: overall median age at death was 10 years (minimum= 0 years, maximum= 17 years); mean age at death was 9.07 years



**Figure 2:** Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the twenty most common causes of death (N= 55). The solid line within each box represents the median age of death from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

## **Morbidity results**

The 707 live Whippets represented 1.65% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 4 years (Table 2). Of the 707 Whippets which the survey covers, 564 had reported no conditions and 143 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 5 conditions), giving a total of 215 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Whippets are shown in Table 3. There were 559 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 2 years (min = 0 years, max= 14 years, Figure 3). The ages for the most common conditions is displayed in Figure 4. Table 5 shows the frequency of occurrence of all reported disease conditions for the Whippet.

**Table 2:** The summary statics for the dogs' current age when survey was completed

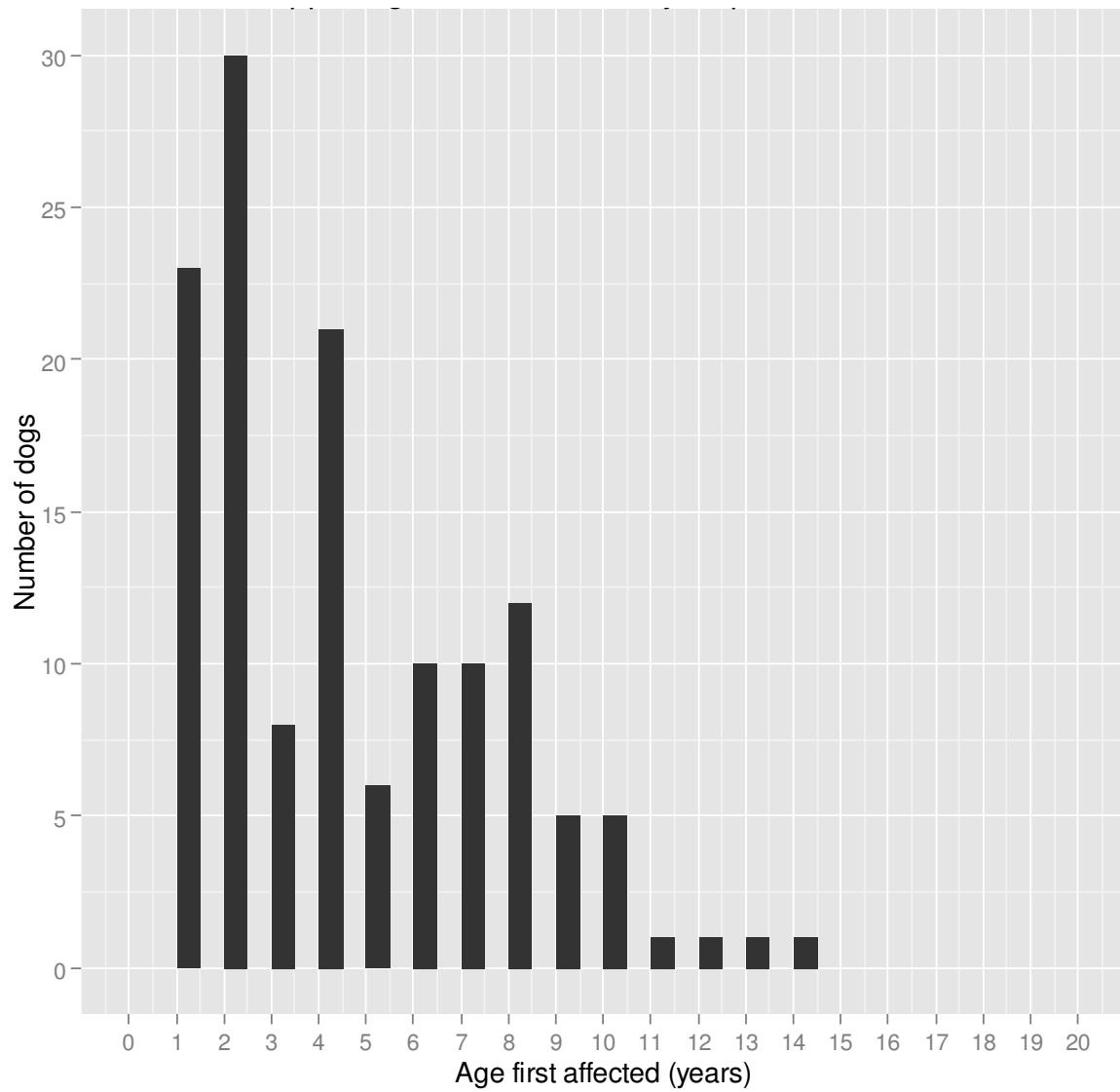
<b>Number of Dogs</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
707	4.21	4	0	22

**Table 3:** Gender, neuter status and age summary statistics for dogs where gender and neuter status was reported

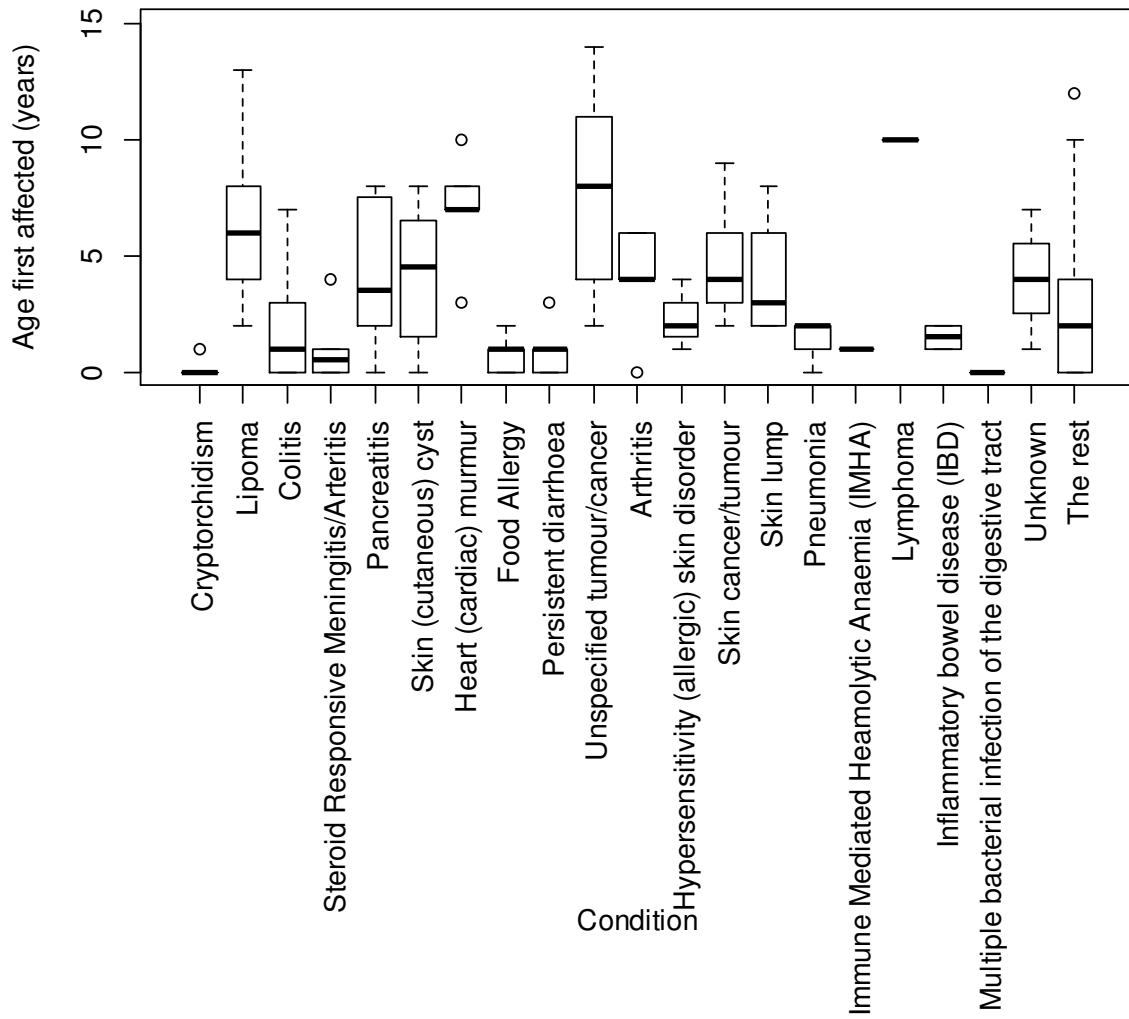
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Neuter status</b>	<b>Age Known</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Median age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Min age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Max age neutered (years)</b>
Female	Neutered	Yes	174	1.59	1	0	12
Female	Neutered	No	5	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Not neutered	No	131	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	9	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	196	0.84	0	0	10
Male	Neutered	No	2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Not neutered	No	183	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	No	7	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Table 4:** The body condition comment and the age of the dog when this comment was made

<b>Body condition</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
No comment was made by vet	45	4.33	4	0	10
Normal	478	3.17	2	0	15
Somewhat overweight	22	5.59	5	2	11
Somewhat underweight	11	3.91	3	0	12
very overweight	2	3	3	2	4
Very underweight	1	8	8	8	8



**Figure 3:** Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported



**Figure 4:** Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

**Table 5:** The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 707 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Cryptorchidism	14	6.51	1.98
Lipoma	11	5.12	1.56
Colitis	10	4.65	1.41
Pancreatitis	8	3.72	1.13
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	8	3.72	1.13
Steroid Responsive Meningitis/Arteritis	8	3.72	1.13
Heart (cardiac) murmur	7	3.26	0.99
Arthritis	5	2.33	0.71
Food Allergy	5	2.33	0.71
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	5	2.33	0.71
Persistent diarrhoea	5	2.33	0.71
Skin cancer/tumour	5	2.33	0.71
Skin lump	5	2.33	0.71
Unspecified tumour/cancer	5	2.33	0.71
Pneumonia	4	1.86	0.57
Addison's disease (primary hypoadrenocorticism)	3	1.4	0.42
Alopecia/Baldness	3	1.4	0.42
Conjunctivitis	3	1.4	0.42
Immune Mediated Hemolytic Anaemia (IMHA)	3	1.4	0.42
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	3	1.4	0.42

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/215 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/707 live dogs

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed most Whippets were not affected by a disease condition (79.77%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was cryptorchidism. The most commonly reported cause of death was old age.